



February 20, 2019

Governor Janet Mills
1 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Éric Martel
President and Chief Executive Officer

Édifice Jean-Lesage
20^e étage
75, boulevard René-Lévesque Ouest
Montréal (Québec) H2Z 1A4

Re: New England Clean Energy Connect
Maine Public Utilities Commission Docket No. 2017-00232

Dear Governor Mills:

On behalf of Hydro-Québec, and its United States affiliate, H.Q. Energy Services (U.S.) Inc. ("HQUS"), I write to express our full support for the New England Clean Energy Connect ("NECEC") transmission project and its successful and timely completion. The NECEC is an important project for the energy future of both the State of Maine and the Province of Québec, which will provide many important benefits for both jurisdictions for many years to come.

While Hydro-Québec and HQUS are not parties to the pending proceeding before the Maine Public Utilities Commission ("MPUC") regarding the NECEC, we are fully apprised of those proceedings and the settlement stipulation that has been negotiated among all of the interested parties, including your Energy Office. We acknowledge all of the representations made in the settlement stipulation concerning the payments and other support that HQUS and Hydro-Québec are to provide the State of Maine as part of the settlement and we affirm those representations here. It is our sincere intention to honor all of those commitments called for in the settlement stipulation, such as the funding for ratepayer relief, the electric vehicle, heat pump and broadband programs, and to work with the State of Maine to complete the NECEC project in a timely and successful manner. We recognize the guaranty pledged by Avangrid regarding its commitments, stand ready to enter into the definitive support agreement and parental guaranty called for in the settlement stipulation, and understand that these agreements are a necessary condition for the NECEC Transmission LLC to move forward with construction of the NECEC project.

Thank you for your consideration of the NECEC project. We share the goal of Maine and your administration to increase the use of renewable energy as part of the long-term effort to meaningfully reduce carbon emissions throughout our common region. We look forward to the opportunity to work with your administration on the project so that Maine and Quebec may realize the many benefits that the NECEC project promises.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end, representing the signature of Éric Martel.

Éric Martel
President and Chief Executive Officer